

Erasmus policy statement (overall strategy)

First of all, we will send letters of introduction to the future partners (educational centres and companies) taking into account our professional profile for our FPGS students.

Our main goal is that our students could fully achieve all their professional abilities, thus, we will select our partners taking it into account.

We are interested in dealing with English, Spanish and/or French speaking countries, because these languages are taught in our school. So the geographical areas are: the EU countries, South America and the USA. The students who are going to participate in the Erasmus project are those of the vocational training courses: International Trade and Industrial Automation and Robotics.

The head teacher team and the teaching staff have established as one of their main goals to incorporate the European projects to our daily work. Our school would like to participate in the European projects such as Erasmus+ to improve our teaching collaboration with other institutions. We would like our students to have the opportunity to complete their studies in a different country within the European Union, especially those subjects related to the FCT.

We would be interested in dealing with partners with a similar curriculum to that we offer in order to enrich the skills and curricular of our students. One of the main requisites is that our partners could work in any of the reference languages that we teach in our school, that is, Spanish, English or French. Other requisites to be taken into account will be:

- Diversity: those partners with a diversity of genres, languages, culture, and geographical aspects will be appreciated.
- Complementarity: contents, organization, experience, etc.
- Value added: all those elements dealing with training, employability, quality, certifications...
- Repercussion and image: possible repercussion dealing with the school and its teaching and certificates.

Our main objective are:

- Give our students to possibility of increasing their knowledge in a real working place in a different country.
- Improve the quality and relevance of higher education.
- Strengthen the quality of education and traineeship through mobility and cross-border cooperation.
- Link higher education, research and business for excellence and regional development.
- Advertise our participation in these projects through our website, to inform and encourage our students and teaching staff to participate in them.
- Promote within the Erasmus+ project the knowledge and linguistic learning to increase the students' employment opportunities.

The priorities of our institution are:

- Evaluate cooperation possibilities with other centres and companies.

- Update the students on language courses and mobility projects.
- Develop activities for the individual progress of the students.

We will advertise the importance and the relevance of the international projects among the teaching staff, students, Educational Board, companies and local authorities. We will use the websites as the main tool as well as the media and specialised magazines, organising teaching courses.

We also have the compromise of the Head of Studies team, different departments and the Educational authorities which guarantee the fulfilment of our projects.

Everything is included within the equal opportunities policy and the non-discrimination because of sex, race or religion reasons. Our institution has been carrying out educational projects on Coeducation (sex equality and equal opportunities for men and women) and on “School is space for peace”. In this way, our centre will promote the same opportunities for men and women in our teaching process.

In regards to mobility, we are committed to extend the range and nature of the opportunities we can offer to our students, as an integral part or optional credit mobility components of our degree syllabuses. This will include both study and work placements in participating and non-participating countries. We will continue to explore short-term mobility to encourage participation of diverse students.

We will actively promote international mobility when recruiting new students and among current students throughout network of departmental coordinators. At the same time, we will demonstrate our strong institutional commitment to equality of opportunity. We will build on our experience to enhance and develop inclusive policies and practice in regards to all aspects of mobility.

Mobility of academic and administrative staff is a priority for effective partnership relationship management, support of cooperation projects, professional training, teaching delivery and programme development.

In all our international activities we recognise the importance of regular monitoring and evaluation, as well as benchmarking with peers, in order to inform and influence our future practice, policy and strategy.

Our institution’s strategy for the organization and implementation of international cooperation projects within the framework of the Erasmus+ Programme:

Our institution will combine different approaches to project design and implementation. Thus, we will promote participation and coordination of international projects by offering advice and support to individual members of staff wishing to submit international project applications.

The expected impact of our participation in the Erasmus+ Programme on the modernisation of our institution:

In general, the Erasmus+ Programme will allow advancement of individual learning opportunities through mobility and participation in strategic projects, all of which will then feed into the general overall modernization strategy of our institution. It will also allow the attraction of talent and furtherance of innovative educational programmes in

short cycles. The design and implementation of strategic actions and projects will intensify positive outcomes in the five priorities as follows:

1. **Increasing attainment levels to provide the graduates and researches Europe needs.**

We are convinced of the added educational value of mobility for graduate attainment in generic competence and increased employability and critical capacity. We will develop our commitment to widening participation and inclusivity, through our projects, our admission policy and practice.

2. **Improving the quality and relevance of higher education.**

International cooperation will provide ample opportunities for benchmarking and thus enhanced quality assurance with trusted partners. We will actively promote to students and staff the personal and professional development benefits of international mobility and highlight to prospective employers the transferable skills and competences typically associated with this experience, such as cross-cultural communication and language skills.

3. **Strengthening quality and relevance of higher education.**

We believe that we improve and grow by listening to, and learning from, others. We will expand our knowledge and experience of other education systems and qualifications to facilitate progression, recognition, exchange and co-operation in programmes development thanks to working with our partners from different countries.

4. **Making the knowledge triangle work.**

We work in partnership with business and industry, including regional associations, to exploit our intellectual capital and create a highly-skilled workforce. Working with industry translates research into innovations that shape our world, dealing with global challenges. With our participation in the programme we hope to promote intersectional mobility and projects, thus increasing knowledge transfer with business at regional, national and international level. Students with greater entrepreneurial and creative skills attained during mobility will contribute to regional development.

5. **Improving governance and funding.**

The programme will offer extensive opportunities for benchmarking and exchange of best practice in school governance and management, particularly through teaching staff mobility, and the implementation of strategic projects with international partners for all levels of school management. Intersectorial cooperation will open windows of opportunity for the diversification of funding sources, particularly with the private sector.

